

MSO Newsletter Article

You've heard the rumors. You've seen some articles. But what is the SCTE Cable College at RIT and how can it help you in your career? Let's take a look at the structure of the program and the options available for taking your career to the next level.

There is no such thing as one-size-fits-all in today's market. That's a common myth not borne out in reality. Each of us comes from different backgrounds; has different objectives; and certainly different career goals. Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) realizes this and offers a flexible education program that allows customization to a large degree for each student.

A student in the SCTE Cable College at RIT can enroll simply to take a single class of interest with no commitment of doing more. While this is an acceptable starting point, one would be wise to eventually take a longer view of career development. Still, a single course may be the right thing for now, and be encouraged that that is perfectly acceptable. However, there are other options.

In addition to simply taking a course, a student can work to achieve a certificate, which consists of three or more courses centered on a common service or network application. The student also has the option of working to complete an Associate degree, a Bachelor of Science, or a Master of Science degree. Each of these has variations in terms of required components, but what they all have in common is that under the SCTE Cable College at RIT, the courses integrate cable applications of the technology.

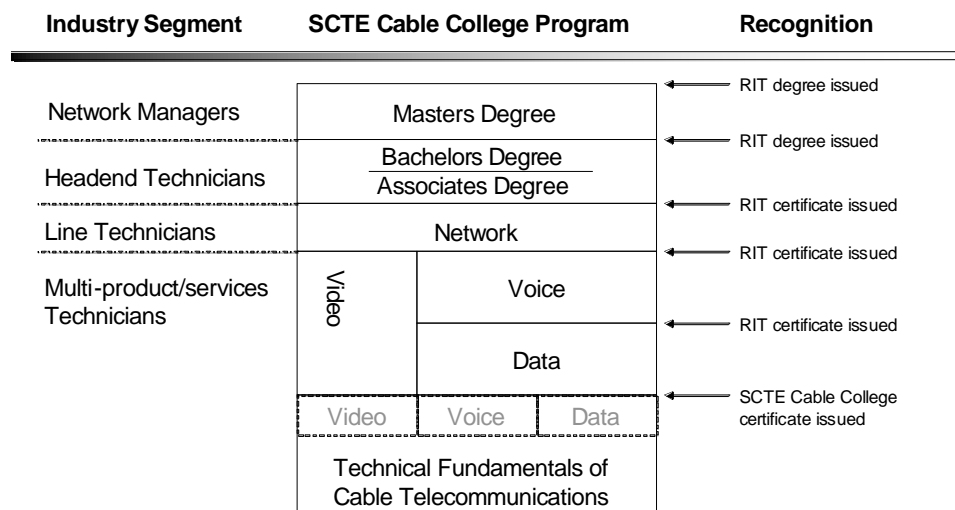


Figure 1: Course Mapping

The SCTE Education Advisory Board defined the services and network segmentation in the cable industry. Figure 1 depicts the relationship between the SCTE Cable College at

RIT programs and job function. On the left side of the figure are groupings of technical positions. The center of the diagram suggests the certificates and degrees associated with those job functions. The right side indicates the points at which recognition is awarded.

New courses are being developed that uniquely address the cable telecommunications industry. Courses already available include: Interpersonal Communication for Customer Service Objectives, Principles of Digital Video Processing for Networked Communications, and Introduction to Cable Networks and Technology. Each of these courses will be offered for the upcoming winter quarter beginning December 3 and registration is open now.

Figure 1 helps to depict the overall structure and relationship; however, it does not provide a starting point. In other words, not everyone starts at the bottom and works upward. This is where your relationship with a professional academic advisor comes into play. Time spent with the advisor in advance will help to ensure that your expectations are met. If you are ready to push your career to the next level, contact the SCTE Cable College at RIT academic advisor at scte@rit.edu or visit www.rit.edu/scte for more information.

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Tech Bullets:

Our Managers of Technical Employees:

Bridge the Knowledge Gap...for you...for our workforce

Overwhelmed by the rapid advance in technology and shortened deployment cycles?

How are you ensuring that the workforce is up-to-date on telecommunications technology?

Do it on your schedule ... employees do it on their schedule... online ... and paid for*

Building an underlying foundational knowledge of key telecommunications technology is essential for your career... and that of your employees!

Understanding existing telecommunications protocols gives you a great starting point for adding incremental knowledge as the technology evolves... which it is doing rapidly!

Services utilizing emerging technologies continue to be added to the business offerings of the Company. Rarely are these replacement technologies. Rather the required knowledge for the technical workforce continues to enlarge.

In a highly competitive environment, there is little time to master one technology before another comes along. Staying current begins – and continues - with building a solid understanding of network operations and technology trends.

There is no better investment for the long-term than the investment you make in your own knowledge... and that of your employees. Formal education is more than a certificate or degree. The foundation upon which you will build in the future must be strong and extensive.

Given the varied and extensive demands on your time, it can be difficult to set aside time to build your knowledge foundation, but if do not invest in yourself and your future, who will? The same is true for the demands placed on our technical workforce. Do it on your schedule! Do it online!

Would you consider going to physician who has not updated their knowledge base over the last several years? New information and technology is emerging continually and you must stay current to stay competent. Just as medical education programs assist a doctor in sustaining their career, SCTE Cable College @ RIT can help you do the same in your field.

Take a *course* of action: and you can also move towards a certificate, AS, BS, MS ... You are responsible for effective and efficient deployment and operation of new telecommunications services. You are responsible for effective and efficient deployment of technical employees. Help yourself! Help your employees help themselves!

- **Courses / Programs through the SCTE Cable College @ RIT are covered by Tuition Reimbursement, SCTE Foundation Scholarships, and RIT Financial Programs**

**Contact: Advisors are available now: call 585.475.2234;
email: scte@rit.edu; visit: www.rit.edu/scte**